

Message Text

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ORIGIN OES-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 NASA-02 EB-07 ACDA-10 CIAE-00
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R 161915Z DEC 76
FM SECSTATE WASHDC
TO AMEMBASSY LISBON
INFO AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY OTTAWA
COMUS FORAZ AZORES
USDAO LISBON PORTUGAL

UNCLAS STATE 304883

E.O. 11652:

TAGS: TPHY, TGEN, OCLR

SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR FLIGHT CLEARANCE - CLOUD STUDY

1. SATELLITE IMAGES OF CLOUDS PROVIDE ESTIMATES OF ATMOSPHERIC WINDS. NASA NEEDS TO VERIFY THESE ESTIMATES BY FLYING AIRCRAFT TO OBSERVE CLOUDS.

2. NASA REQUESTS THAT CLEARANCE BE OBTAINED TO OPERATE TWO AIRCRAFT FROM LAJES, AZORES FOR APPROXIMATELY TEN FLIGHTS EACH, ONE FLIGHT EACH PER DAY, DURING THE PERIOD FROM FEBRUARY 1, 1977 THROUGH MARCH 15, 1977.

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3. ALL FLIGHTS WOULD BE PLANNED TO RETURN TO LAJES HOWEVER, WEATHER OR EMERGENCY MAY DICTATE USE OF BASES AT SANTA MARIA, AZORES; LISBON, PORTUGAL; ROTA NAVAL STATION, SPAIN; TORREJON AB, SPAIN; OR ST. JOHNS, NEWFOUNDLAND.

4. THE AIRCRAFT WOULD BE: ONE WB-57F, REGISTRY NUMBER

AND CALL SIGN OF NASA 926; AND EITHER ONE NC-130B REGISTRY NUMBER AND CALL SIGN NASA 929 OR ONE NP-3A REGISTRY NUMBER AND CALL SIGN NASA 927.

5. AIRCRAFT WOULD OPERATE FROM LAJES, AZORES OVER INTERNATIONAL WATERS OF THE ATLANTIC IN AN AREA BOUNDED BY 32 DEGREES NORTH AND 46 DEGREES NORTH LATITUDES AND 21 DEGREES WEST AND 35 DEGREES WEST LONGITUDES. THE WB-57F WOULD OPERATE AT 60000 FEET MSL; THE C-130/P-3 WOULD OPERATE BETWEEN 500 AND 25,000 FEET MSL.

6. INSTRUMENTATION: WB-57F WOULD CARRY ZEISS METRIC CAMERA WITH BLOCK AND WHITE FILM FOR RECORDING CLOUD POSITIONS; C-130/P-3 WOULD CARRY HANDHELD 70 M M CAMERA FOR RECORDING VERTICAL CLOUD DEVELOPMENT AND PRECISION RADIATION THERMOMETERS FOR RECORDING AIR AND CLOUD TEMPERATURES. ALL DATA TO BE COLLECTED OVER INTERNATIONAL WATERS. NO LAND MASSES ARE TO BE PHOTOGRAPHED. THERE WILL BE NO RESTRICTION ON AVAILABILITY OF DATA FROM THIS MISSION.

7. POST (LISBON) IS ASKED TO OBTAIN ANY NECESSARY CLEARANCE FOR THESE AIRCRAFT AND MISSIONS.
ROBINSON

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NNN

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